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House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 2 p.m.

Senate

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O, God, our shield, look with favor upon our Senators today. Guide them around the obstacles that hinder their progress, uniting them for the common good of this great land.

Lord, free them from anxiety and fear as they put their trust in You. Enable them to go from strength to strength, fulfilling Your purpose for their lives in this generation. Guide them to use their abilities and talents to accomplish Your holy will. Striving to please You, help them to stand for right and leave the consequences to You.

We pray in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for 1 minute in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THE JUSTICE ACT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, we are taking a very important vote tomorrow on a bill called the JUSTICE Act. I am proud to cosponsor this police reform bill, and I also applaud Senator TIM SCOTT for his leadership in improving police accountability while at the same time preserving the essential service that law enforcement provides. These are the people who maintain the peace in the respective communities around the United States.

We are ready to work with Democrats on police reform. I hope the Democrats finally are willing to come to the table.

A successful vote to proceed to the JUSTICE Act speaks volumes. A vote against proceeding shows the American people that politics are more important than people, talking points more important than change, and gridlock more important than solutions.

Surely, Democrats want police reform. I hope Democrats will vote in favor of opening debate on the JUSTICE Act. George Floyd and countless others so murdered deserve the Senate's action and consideration of this bill.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

PROTESTS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, 2 weeks ago, I argued that civil discourse in America faces a crossroads.

A major newspaper had buckled under pressure from the social media mob. They apologized profusely for publishing a policy argument from a U.S. Senator and made personnel changes to prove their penitence. I said that we could either recommit to our tradition of seasoned debate or let an angry mob run our culture.

Recent days have reminded us that it is not just our present-day debates that far-left radicals want to overwhelm. They also want to rewrite the past.

Back in 2017, when people wondered whether our important conversations over Confederate monuments would give the far left a broader taste for pulling down statues, major newspapers and media figures literally mocked that concern. They said there were obvious differences between rebel generals and our Nation's Founders. They said nobody would come gunning for Washington or Jefferson. Well, the far left missed the memo.

A few days ago, in Portland, OR, a mob graffitied a statue of our first President, pulled it down, and burned an American flag over his head. This is George Washington.

Another Washington statue was defaced in Baltimore. A statue of Thomas Jefferson was ripped down in Portland also. This is the general and first President who built our Nation and the author of the Declaration of Independence—genius statesmen who helped begin this grand experiment that has

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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